

Qualifying Exam Grading Rubric
Integrated Program in Biomedical Sciences

Student Name:	
Date of Exam:	
Committee Member:	
<i>(Scoring System on 2nd page)</i>	
Hypothesis or Experimental Question (Comments):	Score:
Experimental Approach (Comments):	Score:
Background Knowledge (Comments):	Score:
Oral Presentation:	Score:
Additional Comments:	Grade (Pass/Fail):

Scoring System

1 Exceeds Expectations Outstanding

The student excelled in this area. He/she understood it and was highly proficient.

2 Meets Expectations Good/Fair

The student did OK and performed adequately. There are some areas in need of improvement.

3 Below Expectations Poor

The student did not understand this or do well in this area. The student failed to demonstrate minimal adequate competency, even with suggestions from the committee.

A grade of "Fail" by two or more committee members will result in remediation or termination from the PhD program.

Hypothesis or Experimental Question

Student must have a hypothesis or experimental question which is clearly stated, testable, and well-justified. The rationale for this hypothesis or question must be clear, and the student must be able to defend his/her proposed hypothesis or question.

Experimental Approach

The experimental approach must be clearly described and logical. The approach must directly test the hypothesis or experimental question. Discussion of expected and alternative outcomes, potential pitfalls, and alternative approaches must be included.

Background Knowledge

The student must display a deep understanding of the Qualifying Exam topic and supporting literature. The student must also have broad knowledge of the general biomedical sciences and experimental approaches, especially in their specific track.

Oral Presentation

The student must be able to clearly articulate and describe the research proposal. The student must be able to defend his/her rationale for specific approaches and respond to critiques in a professional manner. Overall oral communication skills are evaluated in this section.